



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE, CBP agents arrest admitted MS-13 gang member near Rio Grande Valley

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, in partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border Patrol (CBP), arrested an alleged MS-13 gang member near the Rio Grande Valley on Monday.

Alex Aldolfo Cabrera-Escobar, 26, a Mexican citizen, admitted to federal agents that he has been an MS-13 gang member since joining in 1992 in Veracruz, Mexico. He also admitted entering the United States illegally by wading across the Rio Grande River.

Further questioning determined that Cabrera-Escobar illegally entered the U.S in 1992, and had lived here since 2003. He also has criminal convictions for domestic violence and auto theft in 2003 for which he served prison time. Background checks revealed Cabrera-Escobar was deported from the United States through Hidalgo, Texas, March 16.

“This arrest is one example of our heightened efforts to combat these violent foreign-born criminals from entering the United States and attempting to hide from law enforcement,” said ICE Special Agent-in-Charge Robert Rutt. “As part of this increased enforcement, we routinely work with our many partners in the law enforcement community.” Rutt heads the ICE Office of Investigations in the Houston area of operations.

Under a national initiative launched February 2005 known as Operation Community Shield, ICE has arrested over 2,388 violent criminal gang members; 922 were members or associates of the MS-13 street gang.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.